

CHAMBERMAYRUB
CUBAN EXCURSION

Four Hundred Business Men to Make Trip in January if Rates Aren't Too High.

NOW SEEKING INFORMATION

Plan Is to Charter Special Train and Steamer From Tampa.

Although the matter has never been passed upon finally by the board of directors, the Chamber of Commerce is trying to arrange for a special trip to Cuba on January 15 next, when it is expected that 400 business people of this city will make a whirlwind tour through the island, stopping at several Southern cities en route to Tampa.

Business Manager Dabney has been instructed to confer with railway and steamship officials, the idea being to charter a special train to Florida and a special steamer from Tampa to Havana.

Almost every member of the chamber who has been approached has approved the scheme, and just as soon as the information needed can be secured it will be presented to the board of directors, which will in turn lay it before the organization as a whole.

The tentative schedule calls for a trip which will take up the last two weeks in January, business men saying that it would be more convenient to leave here than at any other time during the winter.

To Travel in Style.

If the trip is arranged, a gold Pullman train will be chartered to leave here for the South. The party would live aboard, a sufficient number of dining cars will be secured, the plan being to make life and traveling as comfortable as possible. It has been suggested that the party spend the best part of a day in Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, and possibly another Florida city, before sailing for Cuba.

In this way, it is pointed out that the trip will be a most profitable one, and will become acquainted with business men in other cities who depend largely upon this town for their supplies, while the sharpest jobbers and manufacturers have already invaded Cuba, where their goods are recognized products on the island markets. In a word, the visitors could combine business and pleasure at small expense, the belief being expressed that the cost will be far less than that which might be incurred by a party of the trip will appeal to everybody for everything will be arranged in advance, and a man will not have to worry about hotel accommodations and check before starting, and if he should lose his pocketbook en route he would not suffer, unless he might be invited to join a poker game in Jacksonville.

Prefer Southern Route.

There are at first a suggestion that the party sail from New York, but the Southern route was regarded as the most satisfactory, inasmuch as there would be more time for sightseeing, without that long trip by water. Besides, the business men are anxious to make friends in Southern cities, and get acquainted with future buyers.

While the trip is being arranged primarily for the chamber, the wives and daughters of members will be permitted to go, which will add to its attractiveness. The whole thing, however, will depend upon the report which will come from the railroad and steamship companies, but if this first expedition proves to be a big success, a year later another trip may be made to Panama.

USE BOTTLE AND KNIFE

Three Negroes Engage in Street Fight, and All Are Charged with Arrest. Ben Harris, Bessie Harris and James Jackson, all colored, were arrested early yesterday morning on a charge of fighting in the street. The two Harris' were charged with striking Jackson with a bottle. They claimed the blow was in self-defense, as Jackson had threatened them with a razor. In the station an open knife was found in Jackson's pocket.

EAT MORE CANDY, WOMAN, IF YOUR LITTLE HEART IS WEAK

Eminent English Authority Declares That Sugar Plums Will Make You Strong—Coroner Taylor Silent on Great Medical Question.

Listen, Estelle. Is your heart weak? New, all together. You eat just crazy about candy? Yes? Then eat more of it. Ten dollars, please. With these few remarks, you are respectfully informed that Sir James Sawyer, an eminent English practitioner—he must be eminent if he is—has come forth with the authoritative announcement that the use of sugar is a great heart tonic. All of the local candy dealers and suffragettes who could be reached yesterday concurred in this opinion. Coroner Taylor, who is always consulted on questions of this character, which are flashed by cable, had nothing to say on the subject, although a candy kitchen has opened just next door to his office, and he may test the experiment by inhaling the delightful aroma which comes from the fatty booth.

Most physicians have preached against the habit of feeding children on candy, but children are supposed to have rather strong hearts. They are not of one mind on this new discovery, which the New York Medical Journal plays up as something of unusual importance. To depart for a moment from the text, almost every physician in Richmond smokes cigarettes, though none would prescribe a cigarette diet for a sick kid.

Not long ago Gilbert Pollock opened a box of candy at a Council meeting, and before he got away with a couple

POLICERAID POKER GAME
IN MURPHY'S HOTEL ANNEX

Management Enters Complaint, After Which Sergeant Brown and Two Officers Suddenly Take Players in the Act.

"Call you. What you got?" whispered a man in a room in Murphy's Hotel annex early yesterday morning. "Got full of ten," said the man at the end of the table, raking in the pot and throwing down his cards. His hand won, and after another little quaff of ale, the game proceeded.

"Hist," came presently from the player on the other end as he dealt himself the cards in a pat straight. "Gee, thought I heard steps outside. Meet your five and raise you ten." The pot grew, and it was a likely looking pot, when there came a tapping, tapping at the chamber door. The players glanced up uneasily.

"Wonder who it is that comes so gently rapping, rapping on our chamber door?" asked the man in the middle, sotto voce.

"Aw, 'tain't nobody but Bill," said a second. "Get up and let him in."

The door was opened, and under the glare of the electric bulbs there shone forth the dread insignia of the Richmond police department.

"Visey, fellows," said Sergeant Brown, and with a broad sweep of his hand he raked in the pot, casting in for \$22.75. His polite greeting was met

dumbly. Silence, deep and absolute, reigned in the room. Surprise and something akin to nervousness was written large on every face. Behind Sergeant Brown's form loomed up Policemen Mitchell and Tinsley, and it was a long way to the ground, and there was but the one door.

"I want you to take a walk with us," continued the sergeant, as he tapped the cork in his pocket. The invitation was accepted without a sign of grace, in fact, none of the pokerists seemed to have the least inclination to go. The room was very attractive, so much more attractive than the thought of the First Police Station.

But they went, and on the blotter of that station are written the names of Sam Hampton, M. Southward, J. H. Miller, W. R. Remond and J. Pischersky. All except Remond and Southward procured a bondsman, and were bailed.

The room is said to have been rented by Southward, and complaint against the alleged poker players was made by the hotel management.

It was an awfully disappointing ending to an evening that had given so much promise of pleasure.

BYRD WILL VOTE
FOR REFERENDUM

But Does Not Favor Anti-Jug Law in Advance of Interstate Regulation.

Replying to inquiries addressed to him by the Anti-Saloon League of Winchester, Speaker Richard Evelyn Byrd, of the House of Delegates of Virginia, states that if re-elected to the Legislature he will vote for a bill referring the question of State-wide prohibition to the people upon the petition of one-fourth of the qualified voters.

In reply to the other question being asked candidates this year by Anti-Saloon Leagues, Speaker Byrd says that he will vote for a bill forbidding the intrastate shipment of liquor into the States, but never Congress gives the States the right to forbid the importation of liquor from other States.

Of course, the first of these answers will please the league, while the second will not. This organization is asking for the passage of a bill directing the Governor to call a convention on the question of State-wide prohibition, on the petition of 25 per cent. of the qualified voters. But it is also asking for an anti-jug bill at once, without waiting for Congress to prevent the interstate shipment of liquor from wet to dry territory.

Presumably, the position of Mr. Byrd is that it would be undesirable to stop the shipment of liquors from wet to dry points in Virginia so long as Washington and Louisville and Charles Town can be made to send in liquor to these dry places un molested.

NEW PIPE ORGAN

First Presbyterian Church to Install Handsome \$8,000 Instrument.

Notwithstanding a recent contribution of \$4,000 to the endowment fund of Union Theological Seminary, the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church at a congregational meeting held after the morning service yesterday, subscribed \$7,500 for the purpose of installing a new pipe organ. It is proposed to erect this summer a modern pipe organ to cost \$8,000, making it one of the finest musical instruments in Richmond. Seventy members of the church who were not present yesterday, will subscribe to the fund, which will probably be closed this week.

Last night at a meeting of the Brotherhood at the First Presbyterian Church, it was decided to erect a church building, to cost \$1,200, for the new Fairmount Presbyterian Church, to be located near the present chapel, where preaching has been regular held under auspices of the First Church. A subscription was taken and contributions amounting to \$1,625 were entered.

of chocolate drops other members had robbed him. For a moment the whole branch was nibbling bonbons. At that play however, the heart tonic squeeze Taylor foundered. Coroner Taylor's statement that the candy was continually eaten sweets has no doubt a strong drink—which might be advanced as a testimonial in behalf of the Commonwealth.

But to get back. Candy for a weak heart will doubtless prove to be a popular remedy by weak-hearted people, who are fond of candy. If a person unconsciously takes those things which help an affliction after the manner, the point is put forth—pounder or a five-pounder every week, unless the supply is increased. Sir James Sawyer, however, contends that the candy must be chemically pure; he does not believe that the brandy drop, so popular in these towns, will do. The patient is advised to carry with him about half a pound of pure sugar, which he is to eat from time to time, though he must not take a dose—rather a loaf—just before meals. One

left this loophole so that it would not interfere with the proper celebration of the mint season.

One candy dealer suggested that as there might be some difficulty in determining whether or not a woman had a weak heart, a stitch in time might save nine by feeding her on candy before that necessary organ showed signs of weakening.

Saccharine infants agreed that a monument should be erected to the memory of Sir James some day, though they admitted that it could never be done with the financial aid and support of the bachelor buyers.

NEW WARRANTS
AGAINST MORSE

Chemist Now in Baltimore Jail, Having Failed to Secure Bondsman.

Unable to furnish bail in the sum of \$2,000 required of him on the warrant sworn out for his arrest by the Richmond Police Department, Dr. F. B. Morse, the San Francisco chemist, wanted here on the charge of obtaining \$500 under false pretenses from the Richmond Spray Company of Virginia, has been committed to jail in Baltimore, according to information received here yesterday.

On the return of the company's attorney and another representative yesterday morning, four more warrants, specifying the aggregate grand larceny of \$1,150 from the Spray Company, were sworn out against Morse, James W. Lord, president of the firm, taking oath to the warrants.

Captain McMahon immediately telegraphed to Baltimore to have the chemist returned here, as he should have been bailed on the first charge, and also to Washington, where he was expected to appear this morning on a warrant charging him with having obtained money by false pretenses in that city.

Marshall Farnham, head of the Baltimore Police Department, telegraphed here yesterday for a copy of the indictment against Morse. No indictment has been drawn up, as there has been no grand jury session, but Captain McMahon informed Marshall Farnham that he would send a copy of an indictment as soon as possible. This taken to mean that if Dr. Morse persists in his expressed determination of fighting extradition to Virginia, a special grand jury will be summoned and an indictment prepared. James L. Farnham, attorney for the Richmond Spray Company, will hold a conference with Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes this morning to consider what steps shall be taken in the case.

Morse was first arrested in Baltimore at the request of the Washington attorney, who gave him a few minutes before the hour set for his wedding. He was later bailed. He declares that he is guilty of no wrongdoing.

TRIP TO ORPHANAGE

Woman's Home Missionary Society Opens Convention To-Day.

One of the features of the twenty-first annual meeting of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, Virginia Conference, which opens to-night in the Clay Street Methodist Church, will be an automobile trip Wednesday to the orphanage. Several owners have offered to place their cars at the disposal of the delegates, but it was learned last night that a few more contributions are needed in order to accommodate the large number of persons who expect to make up the party. The opening session to-night will be purely social and actual work will not begin until to-morrow morning. A feature of to-night's program will be an address of welcome by Governor Mann.

The society will be in session through Thursday.

Richmond Police to Aid.

C. H. Garrod, of Glen Allen, yesterday asked the Richmond police to aid him in recovering a watch and ring, valued at \$55, which were recently stolen from him. The case is strictly speaking, not within the jurisdiction of the Richmond police, but it was thought that the local department might be able to lay its hands on the suspected thief.

Robbed on Street.

James H. Cottrell reported to the police yesterday that he was robbed on the street sometime Saturday night of a watch valued at \$40. He said that he was approached by a negro, who spoke to him, and that he missed his watch soon afterwards.

Recital of Miss Johnson's Class.

A recital was given last Friday night by the pupils of Miss Belle Johnson's music class. Those who participated in the program included Misses Louise Allen, Evelyn Jackson, Frances Faden, Marion Bates, Grace Lilly, Natalie McFadden and Miss Johnson.

UNCLE HEZEKIAH
IS 104 YEARS OLD

Takes His Tea and Takes His Toddy, and Always Speaks Out in Meeting.

MIND IS WELL PRESERVED

Proudly Wears Prince Albert, the Gift of His Sunday-School Class.

Arriving in the world on the morning of March 13, 1807, 200 years after the founding of the English colony at Jamestown, Hezekiah Norton, an ancient colored man, who looks as if he had just stepped out of the pages of history, not long ago celebrated his 104th birthday, and is living in hopes of being here when the next month of March falls upon the calendar.

The story of his life, or rather so much of it as he can remember and recall, was told by Uncle Hezekiah himself when he was interviewed yesterday by a reporter for The Times-Dispatch. At the time the reporter called with a friend the old man was enjoying a glass of iced tea and a slice of bread, which he followed with a drink of iced water. Though his mouth was white as snow, he ate and drank without aid, and appeared rather proud of the feat. His mind wandered occasionally, and he found it difficult to speak along one train. But he had no doubt as to his age, and he looks the part.

Like Old Uncle Ned.

Like the well-known picture of Old Uncle Ned, his head is white as snow, and long white whiskers depend from his cheeks and chin. Four teeth remain, and there are but few wrinkles. His face is black as ebony, and he is typical of the old-time Southern darky.

Uncle Hezekiah, between bites, said he was born in Buckingham county, and "raised" in Prince Edward, a slave in the household of Thomas S. Jones, whom he vividly recalled. He remembered, having often heard of General Washington and Thomas Jefferson, though he never saw either, and he recalled that Washington was elected the first President of the United States.

"I never seed 'em," he said, "cause I lived away in de country, an' dere was no train, no dem days." He remembered, too, that the British soldiers once overran the country, and the Civil War seems to him as a matter of only yesterday.

Employed as a house cleaner, Uncle Hezekiah says he worked until he was a hundred years, when he retired with his daughter, at 501 East Preston Street.

Member of Jasper's Church.

"I was a young man at seventy," he said, "an' feel kinder peart still. I could do a little work now, but I've thinkin' 'bout my Jesus now an' waitin' for de day when I shall cross de river to Zion." He is the proud father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great grandfather of sixty descendants. Many years ago there were as many more, but death leaving the old man, took his children away, and now when death there is only one—his daughter—now living. His wife died twenty-eight years ago, and after her death, he came to Richmond, where he has always since lived.

The one-time slave is a member of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, once the church of old John Jasper, sometimes called "The Sun Do Move Church" because of Jasper's unalterable belief that the sun moved around the earth. He is a regular attendant at Sunday-school, and was formerly a member of the same. He has the freedom of every home he visits and of the church, of which he is an officer. It is his right, and one that has never been questioned, to rise up in the congregation on any and all occasions to deliver himself of an opinion, or to pray. All listen for he is the recognized leader of the flock, and whither he points the way they follow.

Wears Prince Albert.

Last Christmas his Sunday-school children raised a large purse and presented him with a handsome Prince Albert suit as their yuletide gift. He proudly dons it every Sunday, and carefully packs it away during the week.

With the exception of a mind prone to wandering, the old negro is in full possession of all his faculties. He takes his toddy as he does his cold tea, and he does not feel the least bit of the rheumatism which he never suffers with indigestion or the other sundry ills which flesh is heir to. He goes and comes at will, and there is always a chair and a cup of tea ready for him wherever he deigns to call. Some regard him as an oddity, and others as a curiosity, but with awe and wonder. On him his hundred and more years hang lightly, though the snows of many winters have left their mark. Life is to him now but a season of waiting for that which is ready to answer, and give up his spirit to the Zion of his hopes.

SPENDID GIFT
TO STATE LIBRARY

Miss Arents Makes Present of Valuable Old Files of Public Journals.

WAR-TIME NEW YORK HERALD

Official Organ of French Government for Seventy-Six Years Is Almost Priceless Gift.

Through the generosity of Miss Grace Arents, of this city, the Virginia State Library becomes the possessor of one of the most valuable contributions given to it in many years. It consists of complete files of some of the best known periodicals in the world, covering periods about which there is always research and around which cluster some of the most important events in all history.

Miss Arents inherited the volumes from the estate of the late Major Lewis Ginter, one of Richmond's foremost citizens. While no definite cash value can be placed on them, it is estimated that they could not be replaced for less than \$2,500. State Librarian H. R. McIlwaine is delighted with the gift.

File of New York Herald.

Perhaps the set which will be the most generally in demand at the library is the complete file of the New York Herald from 1850 to 1872. These twelve years comprise the history of the War Between the States and the reconstruction period which followed, and are published in what was perhaps the leading newspaper of the country in its day.

Another file of great value is Niles's National Weekly Register, in seventy-four volumes, covering the period from September, 1811, to March, 1833. This weekly journal, published by Hezekiah Niles at Baltimore, was during the greater part of its existence the only convenient public record in this country of the Federal and State affairs, congressional debates and acts, and of all miscellaneous features of importance in the world's news. It includes an index volume and a semi-annual table of contents.

Of the historical value of the official organ of the government of France, under all regimes since May, 1789, as the authentic, recognized register of all its acts of interior or international importance, the so-called "Monitor of the Hundred Days," and five volumes of index tables.

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Important political periods are marked by different styles of binding. The period of the French Revolution, the coming of the Empire, the Restoration, the reign of Louis Philippe, the Second Republic are covered by the work. It was the official organ of the government, and its records are therefore correct.

ARRESTS YESTERDAY

Sandy Lyons, Colored, Charged With Burglary and Theft.

Sandy Lyons, colored, was arrested yesterday on a charge of breaking into the store of William Sims, 225 East Clay Street, and stealing therefrom two coats and a pair of trousers. The stolen goods are valued at \$30.

Ben Robinson, colored, was arrested on suspicion of having committed a felony.

Joseph Tolka was arrested on a charge of stealing a watch from Harry Robinson, colored, who had been arrested on a charge of being disorderly and attempting to throw a brick at the conductor of Broad and Main Street car No. 928.

Freight Car Demolished. A freight car of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway jumped the track in the Fulton yards yesterday afternoon, and was practically demolished. No one was hurt.

The car was the last of a string of box cars being shifted on a side track to the new Railway station, and it jumped to jump the rails was not known.

CHURCH HILL RAT MAKES
HIS OWN BATH ONCE A WEEK

Fills Basin by Pressing on Faucet and Even Brings His Own Soap When There is None in the Soap Stand.

"You people think you had a remarkable story the other day when you told how the rats had killed cats in a battle royal at the city electric plant," said a Church Hill citizen yesterday. "Now you haven't seen a smart rat until you gaze upon those that run around my house at night. Ever hear of a rat that made his bath and took it every Saturday night? No? Well, you have something to learn. I can certify this thing, but for goodness sake don't print my name until I can have a flashlight picture made, for everybody will call me the prince of rats. Sometimes I think I am dreaming myself, and that is why I want to prove it to my own satisfaction."

"There is a wash basin in my bath room, and it is so arranged that a good rodent can jump upon it. One Saturday night I came home late from the lodge meeting, so I slipped in quietly but my shoes got to keep from disturbing the baby. There was a dim light in the bath room, and as I happened to look in that way, there was Mr. Rat bearing down on the faucet, trying to fill the basin. It scared me

END THE MEND
Wear Holeproofs
The guaranteed Hose for men, women and children.
Gans-Rady Company

COL. BILL SKILLIT KILLED
BY FREIGHT TRAIN IN TEXAS

Body Believed to Be That of Hennerracker Citizen Found Near Mexican Border—Family Fears Worst Has Happened This Time.

Unconfirmed messages from the Mexican border last night brought the shocking information that a man supposed to be Colonel Bill Skillit, of Hennerracker county, had been killed by a freight train ninety-eight miles from El Paso, latitude 41, 13; longitude 55, 47. Although the body was not fully identified, a quart bottle in a hip pocket and the torn slip from a letter beginning "Nish, dear," with some reference to Dumbarton and Hennerracker, led the police to believe that for once the colonel would not come back.

Larkin W. Skillit stated at a late hour that Colonel Skillit had been away from home for nearly a month; that he disappeared mysteriously; that nothing had been heard from him since April 24, when he wrote him for money, which he requested his wife to forward at once to Corpus Christi.

"I will not accept this information as authentic until they have shown

me," said Larkin Skillit. "The message did not say whether the colonel was killed by a train at a grade crossing or while he was a passenger. We still believe there is hope. On several occasions in the past few years mysterious letters have come from one part of the country or another addressed to Mrs. Nish Skillit, saying that her husband had met sudden death, but all of these reports proved to be erroneous. The family never made any reference to this in the newspapers, because we dislike notoriety, the colonel's reckless statements at times having made it a bit unpleasant for the children. But I simply tell you this in view of the fact that this message to-day has become public and to leave some hope to the colonel's friends. Mrs. Nish Skillit has been advised as yet, and if you print this I am afraid I think the worst has happened."

Clay Ward Actives Land Big Guns

Martin, Swanson, Jones and Glass Gladly Accept Cordial Invitations.

With extreme unanimity and gratitude, four well-known citizens have accepted invitations to address the Clay Ward Actives. Their names are, respectively, as follows: Thomas S. Martin, William A. Jones, Claude A. Swanson and Claude A. Glass.

Obeying a resolution passed at a recent meeting, Secretary Haddon invited them to appear before the club at such times as might be convenient to them and say whatever they chose. Martin is busy with his duties in the Senate, but it will afford him the greatest pleasure to have something to say to the club later on. Mr. Jones has spoken once here, and has no doubt will continue to do so. Mr. Swanson, but would under no circumstances forego the happiness of facing the Actives. Senator Swanson has all he can do for the present in Washington, but keeps in mind all the time the honor conferred upon him, and will make the dream a reality before the campaign is ended. Mr. Glass is so charmed with the compliment that he will put the club on the list of his engagements to begin a very short time. This unanimous desire to serve the fellow-citizens of these candidates is very touching to the club.

NEW PACKING HOUSE

Schwarzchild & Sulzberger Lease Building to Be Erected on Grace Near 17th. Schwarzchild & Sulzberger, Western meat packers, will open an Eastern distributing agency in Richmond in the near future, having leased for a term of years a building to be erected for the purpose on Seventeenth Street, and which will cost \$20,000. Permission for the erection of the new building was issued at the office of the Building Inspector Saturday morning. It will be the property of John G. Scott, executor of the estate of William H. Scott, and will be a three-story brick structure, with a basement, facing on the south side of Grace Street, between Union and Seventeenth Streets. The neighborhood has in recent months become largely a centre of branches of Western packing houses, large structures having been erected by Swift & Company, Armour & Company, and others.

ARREST TEN NEGROES

Martha Cephas, Colored, Is Charged With Running Objectionable Resort. Martha Cephas, colored, was arrested early yesterday on a charge of running an objectionable resort at 708 West Duval Street. Officers Smith and Tanner also took ten other negroes out and arrested the whole crowd on a general charge of disorderliness.

Lindsay Henderson, colored, was arrested on a charge of assaulting Fred Jones, and a second charge of carrying a concealed weapon was preferred against him.

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HE COULDN'T HELP IT

Philosopher Simply Had to Get This Out of His System.

"Richmond on a morning like this is a veritable Utopia; the land of the Blessed; paradise, if you like; the one, grand O. K. spot of all the earth, the Capitol Square philosopher sang the day, face to the sun like a human sunflower. 'One feels like playing rock-a-baby-upon-the-tree-top until the crack of doom. I've seen many babies that I'd like to rock, particularly today. Sunday is the heavenly appointed day for the display of infants. The street cars and parks are full of 'em. 'All babies aside, however—and I wish they were—this is a great day, and to-morrow will be just like it, maybe.'"

"Richmond has cast aside her weather tariff and has established free trade with heaven for unlimited quantities of unadulterated sunshine."

Charged With Selling Liquor.

Isaac Brown, colored, was arrested yesterday by Detective Krongel and Policemen Smith and Botto on a charge of selling intoxicants without a license and on the Sabbath. A quantity of beer and whiskey was taken from his house.

Jacksonville, Fla., \$20.45 and return May 14, 15, 16. Richmond Transfer Company 809 E. Main Street.

THE SAVINGS BANK
OF RICHMOND
FOR SAVINGS EXCLUSIVELY.
Your account earns 3 per cent. compound interest with us. "Safe as the vault."
1117 East Main Street.

Good Morning!!!
Did you hear a fine sermon yesterday? Listen to this one: "Be ye not slothful in business."
This is a great and good preaching, and werecommend it for the week. Prove to us that ye heed what ye hear by bringing your business to the
American National Bank

Livingston
9 WEST BROAD ST.
THE CASH SHOE AND TRUNK MAN
WHO UNDERSELLS